

# GNAC SPORTS REGULATIONS

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Updated Sept. 14, 2021



### Section 1. PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENT

- 1.1. All member institutions fielding teams in women's basketball shall agree to participate for the championship.

### Section 2. SCHEDULE

- 2.1 All member institutions shall observe the NCAA starting date for pre-season practice.
- 2.2 The maximum number of games permitted in a single season shall not exceed the NCAA maximum number of allowable games. Regular season conference games cannot be exempted games on the Alaska exemption.
- 2.3 Varsity contests shall be scheduled in accordance with the regulations as they appear in Article 17 of the Bylaws of the NCAA.
- 2.4 Conference members shall complete their conference-scheduled contests as assigned yearly by the conference office. The conference member(s) responsible for failure to meet this requirement shall be declared ineligible for the conference championship in women's basketball for the year in which the infraction occurs. No conference game shall be scheduled after the Saturday preceding the conference playoffs.
- 2.5 The following standard starting time windows shall be in effect for all conference contests: **Non-Saturday Single Games:** 7 p.m. **Non-Saturday Doubleheaders:** 5:15 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. **Saturday Single Games** – at discretion of host (no earlier than 1 p.m. and no later than 7 p.m. local time). **Saturday Doubleheaders** – At discretion of host (no earlier than 1 p.m. for first game and no later than 7:30 p.m. for tip-off of second game). Any changes to the standard time window may be made by filing a CHANGE OF SCHEDULE form with the conference office, signed by both participating athletic directors. Starting times for non-conference contests shall be determined by the host institution. **(Revised 4/19). Note:** When a doubleheader is scheduled, the host has the authority to decide in which order the games will be played. **(Revised 10/04; Revised 10/07)**

### Section 3. NCAA REGIONAL TOURNAMENT REPRESENTATION

- 3.1 The winner of the GNAC postseason tournament will be the conference's automatic qualifier for the NCAA Regionals.
- 3.2 Tiebreaker procedures for advancement and seeding to the postseason conference tournament are listed in [Appendix A](#).

### Section 4. CONDUCT OF PARTICIPANTS – (See Bylaw Article 10, Section 1)

### Section 5. PLAYING RULES

- 5.1 The rules and regulations of the NCAA shall govern the playing of the conference games, unless exceptions are specifically stated in these regulations.

**Section 6. OFFICIALS**

- 6.1 Three officials shall be used in all conference games.
- 6.2 No official will be allowed to work more than four conference games at one site unless scheduling circumstances require additional assignments. Additional assignments must be approved by the Commissioner.

**Section 7. EQUIPMENT**

- 7.1 In 2021-22, the official basketball of the GNAC will be the Wilson Evolution.

**Section 8. GAME MANAGEMENT/CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION**

- 8.1. All game arrangements, including but not limited to the visiting radio and/or television broadcasting crews and special groups, should be approved by the host institutions athletic director 72 hours prior to the event.
  - 8.1.1 Visiting cheerleaders in uniform, mascot included are admitted free to conference contests.
  - 8.1.2 Television/radio time-outs should occur as prescribed in the NCAA Basketball Rules Handbook.
  - 8.1.3 The host institution will provide ice and water.
  - 8.1.4 The official scorer shall wear a black and white striped shirt.
  - 8.1.5 It shall be the home team's responsibility to provide adequate game management and security of the game officials and the visiting team. An escort should be provided for the officials at half time and after the game. The announcer shall read the NCAA statement of sportsmanship 10 minutes prior to the scheduled start time (6:50 p.m. for a 7 p.m. game).
  - 8.1.6 Home game management is required to provide a five-minute notification warning to the visiting team prior to the start of the game and the start of the second half (when a clock synchronized to the game clock is not provided in the visiting locker room).
  - 8.1.7 The host institution will make every effort to provide the visiting team with quality practice times on the day before and/or after the day of the game. It is the visiting team's responsibility to contact the home team to make arrangements at least two weeks prior to the game. The length of the practice times should be minimum of one hour on the day before and a half-hour on the day of the game. The home team shall provide a minimum of six leather balls, same specifications as the game ball, at practice time.
- 8.2 The transparent rectangular backboard shall be used.
- 8.3 Adequate equipment shall be provided for conducting the game, including score book, game ball, a visible scoring device and a visible 30-second clock.

- 8.4 The court shall be available for warm-up no less than 60 minutes prior to the start of the game, except doubleheaders when immediately following the first game the clock shall be set to 30 minutes and started.
- 8.5 Twelve conference approved practice balls will be on the rack at each institution to be used for visiting team practices as well as pre-game warm-up for both teams.
- 8.6 A private meeting room or locker room shall be provided for the visiting team one hour prior to the start of the game.
- 8.7 Pre-game information, including parking, appropriate entry into the facility, practice times, etc. shall be communicated in writing to the coach and any appropriate administrators of the visiting team prior to the game.
- 8.8 Flash photography shall not be allowed.

**Section 9. CONFERENCE REGULAR SEASON CHAMPION**

- 9.1 The regular season conference champion will be the team with the best conference regular-season winning percentage. In case of a tie, the tied teams shall be designated as co-champions of the conference.

**Section 10. STATISTICAL INFORMATION**

- 10.1 The official NCAA Box Score Form shall be completed using StatCrew software. Halftime box scores shall be delivered to locker rooms. After the game, the full game box score and play by play shall also be made available.
- 10.2 The StatCrew game file should be e-mailed to the visiting institution SID and the conference office as soon as possible at the conclusion of the contest. In case of doubleheaders, the file for the first game must be e-mailed prior to the start of the second game.

**Section 11. VIDEO EXCHANGE/SCOUTING POLICY**

- 11.1 All institutions must abide by the video exchange/scouting policy as outlined in Appendix C.
- 11.2 There is no prohibition against in-person scouting.

**Section 12. PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

- 12.1 All conference head coaches shall be members of the WBCA. **(Section Added 5/10)**

## APPENDIX A

### Conference Tournament Tiebreaker Procedure

The following tiebreaker procedures will be used if necessary in determining any seeding positions for the GNAC postseason tournament.

#### **IF TWO TEAMS ARE TIED**

1. The best won/loss record in all GNAC games played between the tied teams over the past regular season.
2. If the two teams split their regular season conference series, then compare the won/loss records of the tied teams in GNAC games against all teams with a .750 or better conference-game winning percentage;
3. If the two teams are still tied, then compare the won/loss records of the tied teams in GNAC games against all teams with a .500 or better conference-game winning percentage.
4. If the two teams are still tied, then compare the won/loss records of the tied teams against each conference team, beginning at the top of the standings and proceeding downward until one team gains an advantage (note: during this process, whenever you arrive at another group of teams which are also tied, compare each of the initial tied teams' cumulative record against the group of secondary tied teams (example: Teams A & B tie for first place, and there are three teams directly behind Teams A & B in the standings with the same records. Compare the cumulative W-L records for Teams A & B against this group of tied teams.
5. If the two teams are still tied, then calculate and compare the conference regular season Performance Indicator (PI) for each team (PI formula attached).
6. If the two teams are still tied, the tiebreaker will go to the winner of the last meeting between the two teams.

#### **IF THREE OR MORE TEAMS ARE TIED**

1. Combined head-to-head record among the tied teams.
  - a. If there is separation of one or more teams but two or teams remain tied, then procedure (a) will be re-applied among the remaining tied teams in order to complete the rank order of all tied teams in the grouping.
2. If the teams are still tied, then compare the won/loss records of the tied teams in GNAC games against all teams with a .750 or better conference-game winning percentage.
3. If the teams are still tied, then compare the won/loss records of the tied teams in GNAC games against all teams with a .500 or better conference-game winning percentage.
4. If the teams are still tied, then compare the won/loss records of the tied teams against each conference team, beginning at the top of the standings and proceeding downward (note: during this process, whenever you arrive at another group of teams which are also tied, compare each of the initial tied teams' cumulative record against the group of secondary tied teams (example: Teams A & B tie for first place, and there are three teams directly behind Teams A & B in the standings with the same records. Compare the cumulative W-L records for Teams A & B against this group of tied teams.

5. If the teams are still tied, then calculate and compare the conference regular season Performance Indicator (PI) for each team (PI formula attached).

6. If the teams are still tied, the individual performance indicator categories in order used by the NCAA Regional Advisory Committee will be compared until one or more teams gain separation in points gained in the performance indicator. All games against Division II opponents will be considered.

**PERFORMANCE INDICATOR CRITERIA**

Division II Games Only (With Neutral Option)

- 23 Win on road against a .750 or above team
- 22 Win neutral site game against a .750 or above team
- 21 Win at home against a .750 or above team
- 20 Win on road against a .500-.749 team
- 19 Win neutral site game against a .500-.749 team
- 18 Win at home against a .500-.740 team
- 17 Win on road against a .250-.499 team
- 16 Win neutral site game against a .250-.499 team
- 15 Win at home against a .250-.499 team
- 14 Win on road against a .000-.249 team
- 13 Win neutral site against a .000-.249 team
- 12 Win at home against a .000-.249 team
- 11 Road loss to .750 or above team
- 10 Neutral site loss to a .750 or above team
- 9 Home loss to a .750 or above team
- 8 Road loss to a .500-.749 team
- 7 Neutral site to a .500-.749 team
- 6 Home loss to a .250-.499 team
- 5 Road loss to a .250-.499 team
- 4 Neutral site loss to a .250-.499 team
- 3 Home loss to a .250-.499 team
- 2 Road loss to a .000-.250 team
- 1 Neutral site loss to a .000-.250 team
- 0 Home loss to a .000-.250 team

\*replicate same formula used by NCAA Regional Advisory Committees.

## APPENDIX B

### ARTICLE 10 CONDUCT AND SANCTIONS

#### Section 10.1. Sportsmanlike Conduct.

##### 10.1.1. GNAC Code of Behavior

In upholding and acting upon the principles, traditions and responsibilities enunciated in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference Statement of Philosophy, the Conference expects, and will insist upon, maintenance of commendably respectable standards of decorum and personal deportment of all players, coaches, officials and spectators at Conference contests. In this regard, Referees are recognized as fully in charge of such events, with full and undeniable authority to sustain such standards and take whatever enforcement or disciplinary actions, including declaration of game forfeiture, as are necessary and appropriate. Specifically; threatening, disruptive, unsportsmanlike, disrespectful, violent, harassing, and/or seriously distracting behavior will not be tolerated. In implementing this policy, the senior game official should, at the beginning of each game, clearly outline with the team captains and coaches the standards of behavior and decorum that will be upheld and enforced.

As a matter of Conference policy, all Referees have the full support of the Conference Commissioner's authority, as authorized by the Management Council and the CEO Board.

The Great Northwest Athletic Conference wishes to exemplify behavior of a kind that will deserve and command the respect and support of the public and campus communities which they represent and with which they relate, as well as the NCAA at large.

10.1.2. It shall be the responsibility of each institution to ensure that all individuals employed by or directly associated with the athletic programs of that institution conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner when representing their institution, especially at intercollegiate athletic contests.

10.1.3. Unsportsmanlike conduct shall subject the individual to disciplinary action. The institution with which the offending individual is associated may also be subject to disciplinary action if it is found that the institution's policies, action, or failure to act substantially contributed to the individual's misconduct.

##### 10.1.4. Acts of Unsportsmanlike Conduct and Individual Penalties.

10.1.4.1. Acts of unsportsmanlike conduct shall include, but not be limited to: any person who strikes or physically abuses an official, opposing coach, player, or spectator. This person may be ejected from the contest and may be suspended for additional contests, as the Commissioner deems appropriate.

10.1.4.2. The following actions shall be subject to a public reprimand for the first offense and a suspension for one contest for an additional offense (a flagrant offense is subject to suspension on the first offense):

- a) Intentionally inciting participants or spectators to violent or abusive action.
- b) Using obscene gestures or profane or unduly provocative language or action toward officials, opponents, or spectators.
- c) Publicly criticizing any game official, Conference personnel, another institution or its personnel.
- d) Acts of unsportsmanlike conduct not specifically described herein.

10.1.4.3. Any person who engages in negative recruiting by making statements to a prospective student-athlete, his/her parents, high school coach, or other persons interested in the prospective athlete which are derogatory of another member institution, its personnel, or its athletic program shall be subject to a public reprimand for the first offense, and to the suspension of the privilege of recruiting for one season for an additional offense.

#### 10.1.5. Penalty Imposition and Appeal Procedures.

10.1.5.1. Whenever the Commissioner concludes that there has been a violation of this regulation, he/she shall impose the penalty prescribed above or, where he/she is given discretion as to penalty, he/she shall impose a penalty that he/she deems appropriate.

10.1.5.2. Whenever the Commissioner decides to impose a penalty, he/she shall first give notice of the decision to the individual and the institution involved. **(Revised 10/06)**

10.1.5.3. In the event that the individual or the institution feels that the penalty is inappropriate because the violation did not occur or because the penalty is excessive, there shall be the right to appeal the matter to the Appeals Committee. An intent to appeal must be filed in writing to the Commissioner's office within one working day of receipt of notice of the penalty imposed. Once notice of intent to appeal has been filed, the official, written appeal documents and supporting information must be received in writing by the Commissioner's office within two working days of receipt of notice of the penalty imposed. **[Revised 5/13]**

10.1.5.4. The Appeals Committee shall conduct a prompt hearing, giving the individual or institution opportunity to be heard. The Committee may reaffirm, set aside, or increase the penalty as is deemed appropriate, giving the individual or institution written notice of its decision and its reasons.

10.1.5.5. The Appeals Committee shall stay the penalty imposed by the Commissioner pending the decision. No public announcement of the penalty shall be made until the individual or institution fails to give notice of the desire to appeal within the time period specified in 10.1.5.3.

10.1.5.6. Whenever a penalty of suspension is imposed at or near the end of a season of competition, the penalty may be carried over into the next season of competition.

10.1.5.7. Definition of terms used in this bylaw.

- a) Suspension in the case of a player means that the player cannot participate in the designated number of contests but may practice.
- b) In the case of a coach, suspension means that the coach cannot be present in the playing arena for the designated number of contests but may conduct practice sessions.

## APPENDIX C

### Video Exchange Policy

1. The host institution is responsible for filming the game and uploading it onto Synergy as soon as possible following the game and no later than the deadlines listed below:

#### UPLOAD DEADLINES

Wednesday/Thursday Night Conference Games: 12:00 p.m., Friday

Saturday Conference Games, 12:00 p.m., Sunday

All Non-Conference Games From Previous Week: 9:00 a.m., Monday

2. Institutions which are negligent in meeting the above deadlines are subject to a fine.

3. If the video uploaded by a team is not complete or otherwise not in compliance, the team that noticed the error will contact the conference office and the team that is not in compliance. The conference office will notify the host institution about the problem with the uploading procedure, the institution then shall be held responsible in correcting the problem to the extent possible by checking the original game film for errors and re-uploading the video. It may be necessary to provide the raw video in another format (such as Google Drive or Dropbox link or YouTube archive) until the problem is remedied.

4. The host institution is responsible for maintaining an archive of their contests.

5. All games (conference and non-conference) are required to be shared. NOTE: Exhibition games are exempt from uploading.

6. Instructions should be provided by a game management designee to camera operators to make sure the following guidelines are followed:

- a. Filming should be done from the middle of the court with a mounted camera.
- b. Volume shall be "on." Camera operators shall not engage in conversation while filming.
- c. Do not film game huddles, time-outs, coaches, halftimes and cheerleaders.
- d. Focus the camera so numbers are visible.
- e. Show the scoreboard at regular intervals and during game breaks (including all time outs).
- f. Leave the camera running until the teams have left the floor at half-time and the end of the game.
- g. Adjust the camera to eliminate any writing on the screen such as the date, record, etc.

7. Conference members may not provide game films to an external group or individuals except for an officially (Conference Office Approved) recognized film exchange with a non-conference opponent.

8. Dissemination of scouting information on member institutions to non-conference institutions is not permitted by any means (e.g., video, phone, e-mail, written materials).

9. In-person scouting is permitted.

10. All coaches are responsible to report any situation (i.e., game control, officiating) they wish to have reviewed to the conference office by 4 p.m. PT on the Monday immediately following the contest. Only situations from the previous week's contests will be accepted. The officiating supervisor should also be provided with information regarding the nature of the situation and the time/clip number at which it occurred in the video in order to review the situation on the game film from Synergy. Submissions of this information will be limited to email only.

11. The conference commissioner has the authority to issue appropriate disciplinary action (including fines) for violation of this policy.